

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:**

Original Figures 1, 12A and 12B are cancelled. The attached Figures are submitted as replacement drawings.

**REMARKS****Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-15, 17-19 and 22-26 have been canceled. Claims 6, 8, 16 and 20 have been amended. Claim 21 is as originally presented. Claims 6, 8, 16 and 20-21 are therefore currently pending.

Dependent claim 6 has been amended to include the limitations from cancelled claim 1 on which it previously depended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Dependent claim 8 has been amended to include the limitations from cancelled claim 1 on which it previously depended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Dependent claim 16 has been amended to include the limitations from cancelled claims 15 and 11 on which it previously depended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Dependent claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations from cancelled claim 11 on which it previously depended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Claim 21 is as originally presented.

**Patentability**

Claims 6, 8, 16 and 20-21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but previously indicated by the examiner to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 6, 8, 16 and 20 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 21 is dependent upon claim 20, which is now in independent form. Thus, it is believed that these claims are in a condition for allowance.

**CONCLUSION**

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-15, 17-19 and 22-26 are currently rejected. Claims 1-5, 7, 9-15, 17-19 and 22-26 have been canceled. Claims 6, 8, 16, 20 and 21 are currently objected to, but previously indicated by the examiner to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 6, 8, 16, and 20 have been amended. Claim 21 is as originally presented. Claims 6, 8, 16 and 20-21 are therefore currently pending. For all of the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that the currently pending claims are patentable over the cited art, and it is believed that

Amendment and Response Dated: December 14, 2006

such claims are in a condition for allowance. Allowance of claims 6, 8, 16 and 20-21 is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that a fee of \$ 510.00 is due in conjunction with the three month Petition for Extension of Time submitted herewith. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the \$510.00 fee, along with any additional fees that may be necessary, or credit any overpayment, to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017, with regard to this Response.

Dated: June 13, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sarah A. Kofflin

Sarah A. Kofflin  
Reg. No. 60,218  
Attorney for Applicants

McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.  
500 West Madison Street, 34<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, IL 60661  
Telephone: (312) 775-8000  
Facsimile: (312) 775-8100